



PALAWAN COUNCIL FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT STAFF

PCSDS 2017

ANNUAL REPORT





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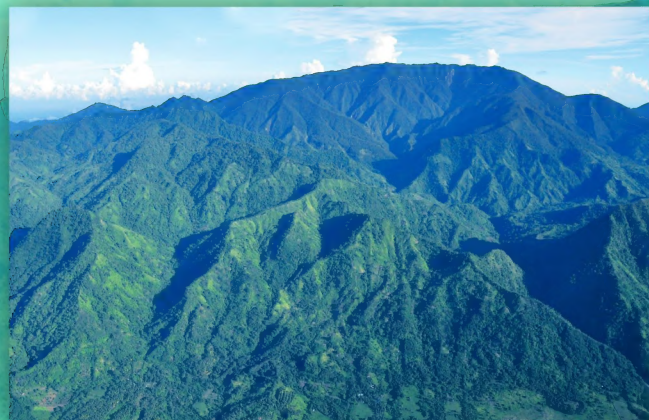
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The PCSD with its staff extends its gratitude to all who supported
its endeavors in 2017.

PCSDS 2017

ANNUAL REPORT

25 Years of Strategic Environmental Plan for Palawan



MOUNT MANTALINGAHAN

Connecting five southern Palawan municipalities in its massive ranges, the Mount Mantalingahan Protected Landscape (MMPL) boasts of its elevation of 2,085 meters above sea level, the highest peak in Palawan. The MMPL is one of the protected areas in Palawan declared under National Integrated Protected Areas System (NIPAS). This protected area covers 120,457 hectares of land and is home to different species of flora and fauna. It harbors a very rich complex of ecosystem services, including cultural values from knowledge system and practices of indigenous peoples living within it. It is usually visited by hikers and researchers for its wondrous landscape.

In 2017, the Palawan Council for Sustainable Development endorsed MMPL for inclusion in the UNESCO's list of World Heritage Sites.

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I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

For the year 2017, the Palawan Council for Sustainable Development (PCSD) and its professional support staff (the PCSD Staff or PCSDS) have continued their mandate of implementing the Republic Act (R.A.) No. 7611 or the Strategic Environmental Plan for Palawan Act, as well as several national laws including: R.A. No. 9147 (Wildlife Resources Conservation and Protection Act), R.A. No. 9175 (Chain Saw Act of 2000), and R.A. 9072 (National Caves and Cave Resources Management and Protection Act).

The PCSDS attained and in some cases exceeded its annual targets under its Major Final Outputs (MFOs) of policy services and regulation services, specifically in terms of (a) developing 21 plans and policies; (b) issuance of 389 SEP Clearances and Wildlife Special Use Permits (WSUPs); (c) monitoring of 264 projects and establishments, and (d) filing of 53 cases. Moreover, the agency aligned its processes with the ISO 9001:2015 or the Quality Management System (QMS); and celebrated the 25th Anniversary of the SEP for Palawan Act. Its physical accomplishment could be correlated with the agency's budget utilization rate (BUR) of 100%. In the immediate past year, as with this year, the BUR of PCSDS was very high, prompting the Department of Budget and Management (DBM) to give commendation to the agency.

In spite of these accomplishments, internal and external factors were encountered, causing challenges in the attainment of the agency's targets. Internal factors include inadequate workforce and conflict in schedules, while external factors may be considered far more complex and can be classified into political, economic, social, technological, legal, and environmental issues.

To address these challenges, the PCSDS have exerted effort to implement a QMS to improve delivery of its services. This enabled the agency to introduce measures, practices, and innovations that have facilitated the attainment of PCSDS target activities and outputs. Among the measures taken were: (a) strengthening of partnerships with other agencies/institutions; (b) engagement of students (interns, on-the-job trainees, volunteers) from these partners; (c) exploration of strategies to improve intra-office coordination and processes (e.g., use of Theory of Change framework in planning); and (d) extending PCSDS's reach through social media.

Based on the 2015-2016 results of the annually-conducted Client Satisfaction Survey (CSS) commissioned by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) to a third party, there is an overall increasing trend in the stakeholders' satisfaction of the services the agency provides. Meanwhile, other institutions such as the civil society emphasized that there are still issues in Palawan that should be prioritized to address, which can be achieved through establishing and reinforcing inter-agency partnerships, among other suggested actions.

II. ASSESSMENT AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

A. MILESTONES

1. PLANNING AND POLICY DEVELOPMENT

a. Palawan Council for Sustainable Development (PCSD or Council) Meetings

From January to December 2017, the PCSD Secretariat facilitated the conduct of 12 PCSD meetings, where 33 Resolutions were approved and issued by the Council.



Figure 1. The 232nd PCSD Regular Meeting on 7 April 2017 at Governor's Conference Room, Provincial Capitol, Puerto Princesa City.

During its last meeting of the year on 15 December 2017, the Council nominated and endorsed the Mt. Mantalingahan Protected Landscape (MMPL) for inclusion in the list of UNESCO World Heritage Sites.

b. Mainstreaming Ridge-to-Reef Approach ECAN Approach into the Local Comprehensive Land Use Plans (CLUPs)

As part of the "Ecanization" of the CLUPs of local government units (LGUs), the ECAN Policy Research and Planning Division (EPRPD) facilitated the preparation of ECAN Zones Management Plans (EZMPs) for the municipalities of Sofronio Española, Brooke's Point, Dumarán, and Narra. Said EZMPs were prepared by the aforementioned LGUs, through the local ECAN Boards and PCSDS. Two of these ECAN Plans – for Brooke's Point and Narra – were developed with assistance of intern students from the University of the Philippines Los Baños - College of Human Ecology (UPLB-CHE). Preparatory activities for EZMP preparation include stocktaking, key informant interviews (KII), community resource mapping, and participatory ECAN zones planning workshops.



Figure 2. (Left) Participants and organizers during the ECAN Zones Management Planning Workshop for Brooke's Point, April 2017. (Right) Cover page of the Sofronio Española EZMP.

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Figure 3. (Left) Cover page of the Dumarán EZMP. (Right) Participatory ECAN Zones Management Planning Workshop in Narra, Palawan on November 2017.

From June to July 2017, the EPRPD and the District Management Division (DMDs) supervised the conduct of ECAN-Based Forest Conservation Planning by 11 field practicum students from the UPLB College of Forestry and Natural Resources (CFNR). Their outputs were presented during the exit meeting on 21 July 2017.



Figure 4. The exit meeting of the UPLB-CFNR field practicum students, together with their UPLB-CFNR instructor and the PCSD Staff.

The EPRPD also spearheaded the development of ECAN Zones Scorecard, a user-friendly results-based monitoring tool to measure ECAN zones management effectiveness, in line with the eight ECAN objectives (under Section 7 of R.A. No. 7611).

c. Cave Assessment and Management Planning

The EPRPD Terrestrial Zones Component facilitated the conduct of the Participatory Cave Management Planning Workshops for Taraw Cave on 23-25 May 2017, and for Ugong Rock Cave on 11-14 October 2017, both located in Puerto Princesa City.



Figure 5. (Left) Participatory Planning Workshop for Taraw Cave, Puerto Princesa City on 11-14 October 2017. (Right) Cover pages of Management Plans for Ugong Rock Cave and Taraw Cave Complex.

II. ASSESSMENT AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS



Figure 6. (Left) Participatory Planning Workshop for Ugong Rock Cave on 11-14 October 2017. (Right) A view from the entrance of the Ugong Rock Cave.

In addition, the Terrestrial Zones Component officially recorded six new caves: (a) Daylight Hole Cave, (b) Butad Cave, (c) Nepenthes Cave, (d) Tara Cave, and (e) Doku Doku Cave (all in Puerto Princesa City), and (f) Lungsod Cave (in Rizal Municipality).

d. Forest Management Stakeholders Consultation Meeting

The EPRPD also co-organized and facilitated the Forest Management Stakeholders Consultation Meeting for Palawan, in partnership with Forest Foundation Philippines (FFP, formerly the Philippine Tropical Forest Conservation Foundation or PTFCCF) and the Palawan State University (PSU) on 21 July 2017 at Princessa Garden Resort and Spa, Puerto Princesa City. The consultation meeting aimed at gathering information on the strategies for forest protection and its sustainable management in Palawan.



Figure 7. Participants and organizers during the Forest Management Stakeholders Consultation Meeting spearheaded by the Forest Foundation Philippines, Palawan State University, and PCSDS on 21 July 2017.

e. Coastal Resource Assessment and Monitoring

The Coastal/Marine Zones Component of EPRPD visited the municipality of Dumarán and conducted coastal resource monitoring (CRM) from 29 August to 8 September 2017. A CRM technical report was produced by the said unit later in 2017.

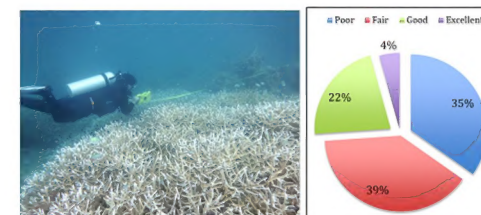


Figure 8. (Left) Coral reef in Talaytay Island, Dumarán. (Right) Percent of sites with corresponding live coral reef cover categories.

II. ASSESSMENT AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

f. Preparation of ECAN Coastal Maps

Also, the Coastal/Marine Zones Component prepared the Coastal ECAN Maps of nine municipalities: Aborlan, Narra, Sofronio Española, Brooke's Point, Bataraza, Roxas, Taytay, Busuanga, and Coron.

g. Aiming for a Climate-Ready Palawan Coastal and Marine Areas

In collaboration with SMARTSeas Project Team, the Coastal/Marine Zones Component organized the "Stakeholders Consultation for a Climate Ready Palawan Coastal and Marine Areas" on 29 September 2017. In that event, the PCSDS concept proposal for the 10-year Coastal/Marine Development Plan for Palawan was presented for enhancement and finalization. Said consultation was held at Best Western Plus - Ivywall Hotel, Puerto Princesa City on 29 September 2017.



Figure 9. Participants during the Stakeholders Consultation for a Climate-Ready Palawan Coastal and Marine Areas at Best Western Plus - Ivywall Hotel, Puerto Princesa City on 29 September 2017.

h. Tribal Ancestral Zones (TAZ) Mapping and Management Planning

Meanwhile, the EPRPD TAZ Component prepared and presented the Proposed ECANized TAZ Map of Barangays Campong Ulay and Punta-Baja to the Protect Area Management Board (PAMB) of the Mt. Mantalingahan Protected Landscape (MMPL) on 1 September 2017. The TAZ Map was incorporated in the development of the TAZ Management Plan of Barangays Campong Ulay and Punta Baja, Rizal Municipality.

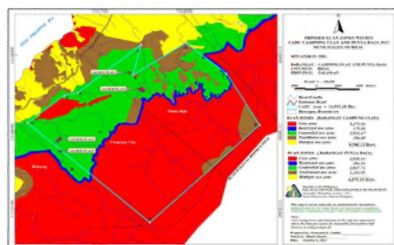


Figure 10. Proposed TAZ Map of Barangays Campong Ulay and Punta Baja, Rizal Municipality.

II. ASSESSMENT AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

i. Forum and Focus Group Discussions (FGDs) on Palawan Almaciga Industry

The TAZ Component also co-organized the "Forum on Almaciga Industry: Streamlining Policies to Sustain Community-Based Almaciga Resin Enterprises", in partnership with the Non-Timber Forest Products - Exchange Programme (NTEP-EP) Philippines on 1 June 2017 in Puerto Princesa City. The forum included a roundtable discussion among stakeholders such as the almaciga traders and collectors, LGUs, national government agencies (NGAs), and non-government organizations (NGOs).

Following the forum, the PCSDS convened two roundtable consultation meetings for Indigenous Peoples Mandatory Representatives (IPMRs) and DENR officials regarding almaciga permitting at PCSDS Main Office, Puerto Princesa City on 14 July 2017 and on 3 August 2017.



Figure 11. (Left) Participants during the Forum on Almaciga Industry on 1 June 2017. (Right) The IPMRs, DENR officials, and PCSDS Staff during the discussion on almaciga permitting at PCSDS Main Office, Barangay Santa Monica, Puerto Princesa City on 3 August 2017.

j. Reconstitution of PCSD Tribal Affairs Committee(TAC)

The PCSD reconstituted the PCSD-TAC during the 2nd quarter of 2017. It is composed of nine members from various organizations/institutions as follows: the National Commission on Indigenous Peoples (NCIP), PCSDS, Provincial Government of Palawan (PGP), Sangguniang Panlalawigan, League of Municipalities, Provincial Environment and Natural Resources Office (PENRO), Nagkakaisang Tribu ng Palawan (NATRIPAL), SARAGPUNTA, and League of IPMRs. The PCSD Staff served as secretariat to the 1st and 2nd Meetings of the PCSD Tribal Affairs Committee on 15 May and 9 November 2017, respectively.



Figure 12. (Left) The 2nd meeting of the PCSD TAC, chaired by Atty. Jansen Jontila (NGO representative and PCSD member), on 9 November 2017, at PCSD Main Office, Barangay Santa Monica, Puerto Princesa City.

II. ASSESSMENT AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

k. Policy Forum on Reef Fish Food (RFF)

The PCSDS through its ECAN Zones Management and Enforcement Division (EZMED) spearheaded the RFF Forum. Held on 17 January 2017, at the Provincial Capitol, Puerto Princesa City, the forum was a follow-up on the implementation of RFF close and open season policy, which started in 2016.



Figure 13. (Left) Ms. Levita Lagrada of ECAN Zones Management and Enforcement Division discusses RFF policy implementation issues to the participants (right) of the RFF Forum on 17 January 2017 at Provincial

I. Formulation of Agency Plans and Proposals

As part of the regular agency planning process of PCSDS, the EPRPD, in close coordination with all divisions, spearheaded the formulation of FY 2018 Agency Plans and Budget Proposal, which was submitted to the Department of Budget and Management (DBM), the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), the Senate Committee on Finance, and the House of Representatives (HOR) Committee on Appropriations.



Figure 14. (Left to Right) Cover pages of the (a) FY 2018 Agency Budget Proposal submitted to DBM and DENR, (b) FY 2018 Budgetary Requirements for House of Representatives, (c) FY 2018 Budgetary Requirements for Senate, and (d) FY 2018 Agency Work and Financial Plan.

Additionally, the EPRPD and AFD developed the agency Annual Work and Financial Plan (WFP) for 2018, showing the major physical targets, implementation schedule, and monthly disbursement program, based on the output of PCSDS FY 2018 Operational Planning Assembly on 18-19 October 2017. Said agency WFP was also submitted online to DBM through the Unified Reporting System (URS).

m. Knowledge, Attitudes, and Practices (KAP) Survey

Subsequent to the KAP Survey spearheaded by the ECAN Education and Extension Division (EEED) in 2016 throughout the province, the division finalized the technical report on the results of said survey. The survey results served as baseline data on the level of knowledge and awareness of Palawenos with regard to the Strategic Environmental Plan (SEP) for Palawan Act. Thus, this will help in measuring the effectiveness of PCSD's activities to change environmental-related behaviors of the people.

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Figure 15. Cover page of the KAP (Knowledge-Attitudes-Practices) Survey Report.

The survey revealed that out of 13,914 respondents interviewed, more than 50% lacked awareness about the SEP for Palawan Act and the ECAN strategy. Meanwhile, in terms of attitude, 85.87% indicated high awareness in protecting and conserving the environment as well as in compliance with PCSD policies. Around 80% were not well versed on SEP and ECAN, while more than 60% of the respondents revealed that they have neither seen nor availed of any PCSD materials or attended PCSD-related events.

2. ECAN KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT AND RESEARCH

a. Third PCSD Scientific Advisory Panel (SAP) Meeting

On 20 June 2017, the ECAN Monitoring and Evaluation Division (EMED) convened the 3rd Meeting of the PCSD Scientific Advisory Panel (SAP) at Best Western Plus - Ivywall Hotel, where 16 scientists and experts from different parts of the country deliberated on five policy issues confronting Palawan, to wit: (a) Critical Habitats as ECAN Core Zones; (b) Open and Close Season for Edible Birds' Nest Gathering; (c) Mangrove Forest Conservation vis-à-vis Development/Utilization; (d) Tongkat Ali Industry in Palawan; and (e) Initiatives to Protect Endangered Wildlife Species. Following the said meeting, a set of statements and recommendations for each policy issue was produced by the panel.



Figure 16. The PCSD Scientific Advisory Panel (SAP) Members during the 3rd SAP Meeting: (Standing L-R) Mr. Jose Angelito Palma, President and CEO of World Wide Fund - Philippines; Dr. Perry S. Ong, Professor, College of Sciences, University of the Philippines Diliman; Dr. Enrico C. Paringit, Associate Professor, College of Engineering, UP Diliman; Engr. Roland F. Rodriguez, former PCSDS Director; Dr. Guillermo R. Tabios III, Professor, Institute of Civil Engineering, National Hydraulic Center, UP Diliman; Mr. Eduardo Queblatin, Philippine Watershed Management Coalition; Sister Mercedes Lalisan, University President, Holy Trinity University; Dr. Benjamin C. Bagadion Jr., Retired Faculty, Asian Institute of Management; Mr. Manuel D. Gerochi, former DENR Undersecretary; and Dr. Porfirio M. Aliño, Research Professor, Marine Science Institute, UP Diliman. (Sitting L-R) Dr. William SM. Gruezo, Chairman and Chief Editor, Asia Life Sciences; Dr. Evelyn B. Pantig, Dean, School of Tourism, Philippine Women's University; Dr. Angel C. Alcalá, National Scientist and Chair, SUAKCREM Silliman University; Dr. Elsa Manarpaac, University President, Western Philippines University; Ms. Marissa Pontillas, OIC-President, Palawan State University; and Dr. Rafael P. Creencia, consultant and former Professor, UP Los Baños.

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b. Third National Conference on Sustainable Development and 4th Palawan Research Symposium

Furthermore, the EMED co-organized the 3rd National Conference on Sustainable Development and 4th Palawan Research Symposium at Citystate Asturias Hotel, Puerto Princesa City on 27-28 July 2017. This event was co-presented by Western Philippines University (WPU), Palawan State University (PSU), Holy Trinity University (HTU), Palawan Polytechnic College, Inc. (PPCI), United States Agency for International Development (USAID), and Galoc Production Company WLL. The activity served as a venue for presentation of a total of 99 latest researches and studies, most of which are about Palawan.



Figure 17. The participants and organizers of the 3rd National Conference on Sustainable Development and 4th Palawan Research Symposium on 27-28 July 2017.

c. Palawan Knowledge Platform

The Palawan Knowledge Platform or PKP (www.pkp.pcsd.gov.ph), a user-friendly web information sharing mechanism, serves as repository of Palawan information. Launched in 2014, the PKP currently has 28 member institutions from various sectors (LGUs, NGAs, civil society, and academe). The PKP remains an active research organization as attested by the fact that it held four quarterly meetings in 2017.



Figure 18. (Left) The 12th meeting of the Palawan Knowledge Platform members at Citystate Asturias Hotel, Puerto Princesa City. (Right) The Palawan Knowledge Platform (PKP) members during 15th PKP meeting on 8 November 2017 at Best Western Plus - Ivywall Hotel, Puerto Princesa City.

d. Implementation of Wildlife Research

The EZMED implemented researches on two economically important species (EIS), particularly (a) donkey's ear abalone (*Haliotis asinina*) and sea cucumber (various species). Said studies were made to assess the status of the species population and fishery in the province of Palawan, as basis in formulating necessary policies to sustainably manage such EIS.

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Figure 19. (Left) *Holothuria fuscopunctata*, a species of sea cucumber. (Right) Sacks of Trepang, a dried body wall of sea cucumber considered as a prime Chinese delicacy.

e. Initiatives as De Facto Management Authority of Palawan Biosphere Reserve (BR)

Palawan's inclusion in the World Network of Biosphere Reserves in 1990 afforded the province an opportunity to devote more efforts toward conservation of nature and scientific research. The Palawan Biosphere Reserve, through PCSDS, continuously coordinated with its sister BR, the Jeju Island Biosphere Reserve, and facilitated the participation of PCSD Staff in various events in Jeju Island, South Korea. Together with two existing BRs in the Philippines – Puerto Galera BR and Albay BR – the PCSDS also promoted the establishment of a national network of BRs in cooperation with the UNESCO National Commission.



Figure 20. The participants during the sisterhood-network meeting of Philippine BRs initiated by UNESCO National Commission.

f. Partnerships and Financing

The PCSDS participated in a series of Regions for Biodiversity Learning Platform online meetings organized by the Network of Regional Governments for Sustainable Development (NRG4SD). It also initiated, in partnership with Conservation International - Philippines, the development of concept note proposal for submission to the Green Climate Fund (GCF).

II. ASSESSMENT AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

3. 3. ENHANCED ECAN MONITORING AND EVALUATION SYSTEM

a. Hydrometeorology and Environmental Laboratory

In response to the monitoring results indicating mercury contamination of sites near Honda Bay, Puerto Princesa City, a meeting for the development of action plan for the said issue was convened. This was conducted on 23 May 2017 at City Hall, Puerto Princesa City, and was attended by PCSD Staff, DENR Undersecretary Marlo Mendoza, Hon. Luis Marcaida III, other city government officials, and representatives from Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (BFAR) and other agencies.

In addition, the PCSDS EMED maintained and operated the PCSDS Environmental Laboratory, and conducted analyses of 1,684 water samples.

The EMED staff also joined three Multipartite Monitoring Teams (MMTs) in the conduct of air and water quality assessment and validation of: (i) Rio Tuba Nickel Mining Corporation (RTNMC), Coral Bay Nickel Corporation (CBNC), and Unichamp Mineral Philippines Inc. (UMPI); (ii) Berong Nickel Corporation (BNC); and (iii) Citinickel Mines and Development Corporation (CMDC).



Figure 21. (Left) An on-the-job trainee assisting in the analysis of water sample. (Right) The Multi-partite Monitoring Team (MMT) during the validation for Citinickel Mines and Development Corporation on 16-17 May 2017.

The EMED, with assistance from DMDs, also regularly collected river and seawater samples in Northern Palawan and Tubbataha Reefs to monitor water quality.

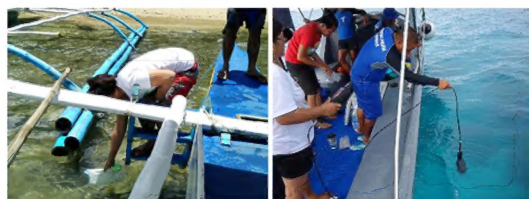


Figure 22. (Left) PCSD Staff collecting water samples in Northern Palawan. (Right) The team monitoring water quality at the Tubbataha Reefs.

Meanwhile, the EPRPD Coastal/Marine Zones Component joined the DENR in the monitoring of the Autonomous Reef Monitoring Structure (ARMS) on 16 May 2017 at Snake Island, Honda Bay, Puerto Princesa City. This is being done to assess the impacts of climate change on coral reefs.

II. ASSESSMENT AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

b. Geomatics

The PCSDS also maintained and operated the Geographic Information System (GIS), and issued 64 ECAN Zoning Certifications.

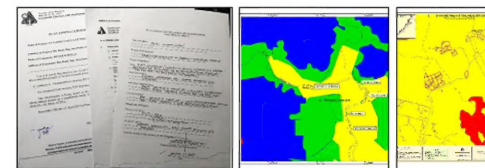


Figure 23. (Left) Selected ECAN Zoning Certifications issued by the GIS Unit to proponents applying for SEP Clearance. (Center and Right) Project applications overlaid on the ECAN Map.

Moreover, the EMED organized and participated in four sessions of training-workshops on the use of ArcGIS Software on 15-19 May and on 29 May to 2 June 2017 at PCSDS Main Office, Puerto Princesa City as part of in-house capacity building of the PCSD Staff.



Figure 24. (Left) Participants during the ArcGIS Training on 15-19 May 2017.

c. ECAN Resources and Ecosystems Accounting and Valuation

The EMED developed the following policy papers: (a) "Including Recreational Services in Palawan Ecosystem Services Account"; (b) "Linking Sustainability, Food Security and Land Cover Change in Narra, Palawan"; and (c) "Approaches to Incorporating Sustainable Development in Palawan Mining Industry".

They also organized an in-house ArcSWAT Training for Scenario Building and Analysis on 4-5 May 2017 at PCSDS Main Office, Puerto Princesa City. The ArcSWAT can be used as soil and water assessment tool especially on watersheds.



Figure 25. (Right) PCSD Staff who participated in the Training on ArcSWAT for Scenario Building and Analysis on 4-5 May 2017.

II. ASSESSMENT AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

On 6 July 2017, the PCSDS engaged one expert from the Global Green Growth Institute (GGGI) to serve as resource person to an in-house familiarization workshop on Local Economic Development Model or Tool at PCSDS Main Office, Puerto Princesa City. The participants were oriented on the use of Stata software in computing for local economic output.

In collaboration with the De La Salle University (Araneta) - Environment and Climate Change Research Institute (ECCRI), the EMED held the Scientific Capacity Development on Accessing People's Survival Fund (PSF) and Food-Energy-Water Nexus Orientation on 3-4 October 2017. The two-day activity was participated in by representatives from LGUs and PCSDS, who were trained on: (a) risk and vulnerability assessment and impact assessment; (b) climate scenarios and projections on rainfall and temperature; and (c) development of proposed climate change adaptation project for submission to PSF.



Figure 26. Participants and organizers of the Scientific Capacity Development on Accessing People's Survival Fund (PSF) and Food-Energy-Water Nexus Orientation on 3-4 October 2017.

d. Sustainable Development (SD) Analytics: Metrics for SD of Palawan Industries

Founded on the ten principles of the International Council on Mining and Metals (ICMM), the Sustainable Monitoring Online Tool (SMOT) generates performance-based results in the four dimensions of SD: economic, social, environmental and governance. SMOT allows proponent-companies to self-check as it rates its current policies and projects vis-à-vis the SD principles. In line with this, a policy paper was developed by EMED entitled "Metrics for SD of the Extractive Industry: Pilot Implementation of the SMOT for Mining in Palawan, Philippines".

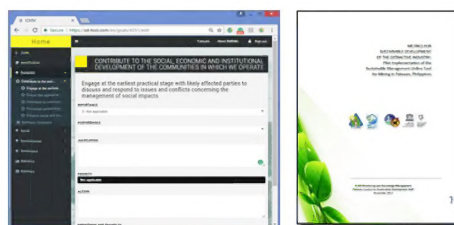


Figure 27. (Left) Screenshot of Sustainable Monitoring Online Tool (SMOT) Assessment Window. (Right) Cover page of the policy paper on SMOT in Palawan.

II. ASSESSMENT AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

As part of the SMOT pilot implementation in Palawan's mining industry, the PCSDS held SMOT assessment and validation workshops on three mining companies (RTNMC, BNC, and CMDC) and one mine processing company (CBNC).



Figure 28. (Left) Participants during the Sustainable Monitoring Online Tool (SMOT) Workshop in the Municipality of Narra on 5-6 April 2017. (Right) The PCSD Staff together with the Berong Nickel Corporation (BNC) staff during the Sustainable Monitoring Online Tool (SMOT) assessment from 31 July to 4 August 2017.

4. ADVOCACY, COMMUNICATIONS, AND EDUCATION

a. Environmental Education and Extension

The PCSDS, led by EEE Division, organized the "Songs of SEP@25" Environmental Concert with the theme: "Kultura, Kalikasan at Kaunlaran... Kasama Ka" on 27 January 2017 at Robinson's Place Palawan. The concert served as the kick-off activity for the 25th Anniversary celebration of R.A. No. 7611 or SEP for Palawan Act.



Figure 29. (Left) Performers during the "Songs of SEP@25" Environmental Concert on 27 January 2017 at Robinson's Place Palawan, Puerto Princesa City. (Right) An exhibit stand showing the SEP Silver Anniversary's theme at the Environmental Exhibit.

In addition, the division spearheaded the information, education and communication (IEC) caravans in the municipalities of Cagayancillo (7-19 March), Quezon (12 May), Roxas (13 May), Sofronio Española (17 May), Agutaya (6 July), Cuyo (22 August), Kalayaan (8 September), San Vicente (12 September), Magsaysay (22 September), Busuanga (25 September), and Coron (25 September).

II. ASSESSMENT AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS



Figure 30. (Top-left) Students participating in the PCSD Quiz Bee during the IEC Caravan in the municipality of Quezon on 12 May 2017. (Top-right) Participants during the IEC Caravan in the municipality of Roxas on 13 May 2017. (Bottom-left) Children with wildlife mascots Mikoy Lobster, Irrawaddy Dolphin, and Coco Loba during the Roxas IEC Caravan. (Bottom-right) Participants during the IEC Caravan in the municipality of Cuyo on 22 August 2017.

The EEED Division also continued its weekly broadcast of the PCSD Radio Program on Tuesdays, and published regular monthly issues of PCSD Updates Newsletter.

Furthermore, in celebration of World Wildlife Day, the EEED organized the PCSD Kiddie Wildlife Summit on 3 March 2017 at the Provincial Capitol, Puerto Princesa City. There is also the continuous recruitment of members for the Kiddie Wildlife Savers Club, which has 1,298 members to date. Also, the EEED launched the Youth Wildlife Savers' Club (YWSC).

b. Capacity Development

In 2017, the EEED facilitated or co-implemented the conduct of various training, including: (a) Wildlife Law Enforcement Training for Batak on 14-17 February; (b) Sharks and Ray Identification Training for PCSD Staff on 11 February; (c) Special Deputy Environment and Natural Resources Officers (SDENRO) Training for wildlife wardens on 6-7 February; (d) Training on LAWIN Forest and Biodiversity Protection System on 8-10 February; (e) Training of Trainers on Environmental Education Program for Palawan on 20-24 November; and (f) Wildlife Enforcement Officer (WEO) Training on 20-24 November.



Figure 31. (Left) Training on Sharks and Ray Identification. (Right) Training on LAWIN Forest and Biodiversity Protection System.

II. ASSESSMENT AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

In line with the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) signed between and among UP, PGP, City Government of Puerto Princesa, UP Alumni Association (UPAA), UPAA Palawan Chapter, and PCSD in 2016, the PCSD Staff commenced the operation of the Palawan International Center for Sustainable Development (PICSD) located in Barangay Irawan, Puerto Princesa City. From 27 November to 1 December 2017, the EEED organized the Solid Waste Management (SWM) Training, together with UP National Engineering Center (NEC) and DENR Environmental Management Bureau (EMB). The training was attended by representatives from LGUs and was held at Cystate Asturias Hotel, Puerto Princesa City.



Figure 32. The Solid Waste Management (SWM) Training for Palawan local government units (LGUs) in partnership with UP National Engineering Center (NEC) and DENR Environmental Management Bureau (EMB) from 27 November to 1 December 2017 at Cystate Asturias Hotel, Puerto Princesa City.

Realizing the need for experts at PICSD to match the need for training to be conducted in said center, the PCSDS and UP co-created a Technical Working Group (TWG) for PICSD, and conducted its 1st meeting on 13 October 2017 in Puerto Princesa City.

5. OPERATION OF SEP CLEARANCE SYSTEM AND PERMITTING SYSTEM

In line with the amended PCSD Administrative Order No. 6, the PCSD issues SEP Clearances to projects and establishments in Palawan after thorough documentary and technical evaluation of project applications by taking into account ECAN Zoning and social acceptability. In 2017, the PCSD issued a total of 152 SEP Clearances to projects and establishments.

Meanwhile, the PCSD, as a designated implementing authority of R.A. No. 9147 or the "Wildlife Resources Conservation and Protection Act" in Palawan, issues wildlife-related permits to project proponents engaging in the breeding or propagation, research, collection, transport, export/import, trade, and utilization of wildlife, wildlife by-products, or wildlife derivatives. A total of 11,720 wildlife-related permits were issued by PCSD from January to December 2017.

Pursuant to R.A. No. 9175 or the "Chain Saw Act of 2002", the PCSD issued 93 chain saw-related permits and certificates of registration (CORs) to applicants in 2017.

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Table 1. Permits and clearances issued by PCSD in 2017.

PERMITS AND CLEARANCES ISSUED	QUANTITY
1. SEP Clearances	152
2. Wildlife related permits	11,720
Local Transport Permit	8,097
Wildlife Special Use Permit (WSUP)	237
WSUP Addendum	5
Wildlife Gratuitous Permit (WGP)	26
WGP Addendum	1
Wildlife Collectors Permit	3,332
Wildlife Import Certificate	6
Wildlife Export Certificate	13
CITES Permit Issued	3
3. Chain saw permits and CORs	93
TOTAL	11,965

To ensure compliance of SEP Clearance or permit holders to the terms and conditions prescribed in the said clearance or permit, the PCSDS monitors these establishments and facilities. In 2017, PCSDS monitored a total of 264 projects or establishments in Palawan.



Figure 33. (Left) Monitoring of sand and gravel quarry project at Barangay Antipulan, Narra, Palawan on 28 March 2017. (Right) Monitoring of a tourism resort in Barangay Poblacion, San Vicente, Palawan on 21 March 2017.

6. IMPLEMENTATION OF RULES AND REGULATIONS

The PCSD Enforcement Team, as part of the Bantay Palawan Inter-Agency Task Force, conducted 71 surveillances, 45 investigations, 22 special monitoring, and 76 apprehensions of violators. A total of 5,970 heads or pieces of assorted wildlife species, 17,800 board feet of lumber, and 24 units of chain saw were confiscated by the team, together with other law enforcement agencies.

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Figure 34. (Left) Inventory of confiscated lumber in Port Barton, San Vicente, Palawan, on 19 July 2017. (Right) Inventory of 70 Hawksbill Turtles (*Eretmochelys imbricata*) on 7 July 2017, as confiscated by PNP-Dumaran on 6 July 2017. (Inset) One of the seized Hawksbill turtles, with its body wrapped in plastic cellophane.



Figure 35. (Left and right) Live turtles found abandoned in barangay Dumarao, Roxas, Palawan on 2 August 2017.

Following such confiscations, a total of 22 criminal cases were filed by EZMED Legal Services to the Provincial Prosecutor's Office, while 31 administrative cases were docketed to the PCSD Adjudication Board (PAB).

Meanwhile, the Wildlife Traffic Monitoring Units (WTMUs) stationed in eight strategic air and sea ports of Palawan inspected and verified a total of 224,181 cargoes and 67,052 boxes of reef fish food (RFF).

7. SPECIAL EVENTS AND OTHER ACCOMPLISHMENTS

a. 25th SEP Anniversary Celebration

In celebration of the 25th Anniversary of R.A. No. 7611, the PCSDS held a SEP Silver Anniversary Gala Night on 19 June 2017, wherein 10 SEP Champions in Palawan were given citations. They include (a) Shell Philippines Exploration B.V., with Malampaya Gas Natural Project; (b) Local Government Unit (LGU) of El Nido with El Nido Resorts; (c) LGU of Cagayancillo and Tubbataha Reefs Natural Park (TRNP); (d) LGU of Balabac and Jewelmer International Corporation; (e) City Government of Puerto Princesa and Puerto Princesa Subterranean River National Park (PPSRNP); (f) LGU of Narra and Katala Foundation, Inc. (KFI); (g) LGU of San Vicente with its Ecotown Planning; (h) LGU of Bataraza with Rio Tuba Nickel Mining Corporation (RTNMC) and Coral Bay Nickel Corporation (CBNC); and (j) Provincial Government of Palawan with its I-HELP Program.

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Figure 36. The SEP Champions during the 25th SEP Anniversary Gala Night on 19 June 2017.

b. China-Philippines Academic Exchange on Aquaculture Technology

The EPRPD Coastal/Marine Zones Component facilitated the China-Philippines Academic Exchange on Aquaculture Technology Conference held on 23-25 November 2017 at the Hue Hotel and Resorts. The delegates also visited the WPU Research Station in Barangay Binduyan and BFAR Sea Ranching in Barangay Santa Monica, both in Puerto Princesa City.



Figure 37. The Chinese Delegates together with the PCSD Staff during the first day of the China-Philippines Academic Exchange on Aquaculture Technology at PCSDS Main Office, Puerto Princesa City.

8. QUALITY MANAGEMENT SYSTEM (QMS) IMPLEMENTATION

As part of aligning the PCSDS processes with the ISO 9001:2015, the PCSD Staff participated in a series of in-house training-workshops and technical guidance on QMS from August to December 2017. These were facilitated by the Productivity and Development Center of the Development Academy of the Philippines (DAP). The QMS training are:

- Training/Orientation on ISO 9001:2015 Quality Management System (QMS) Documentation and Requirements on 14-18 August 2017;
- Workshop on the Revision of QMS Documents and Technical Guidance on (a) Review and Enhancement of Operational Controls and Procedures and (b) QMS Implementation on 4-8 September 2017;
- Cascading session to PCSD Staff on 6 October 2017;
- On-site technical guidance on the Auditing of Quality Management System (QMS) implementation on 12-13 October 2017;
- Training on Internal Quality Auditing of QMS on 24-27 October 2017;
- Internal Quality Audit (IQA) on two PCSDS processes, namely: (a) SEP Clearance System and (b) Financial Management on 21-22 November 2017;
- Briefing on Management Review as part of the implementation of Quality Management System (QMS) on 23 November 2017; and
- Management Review on 12 December 2017.



Figure 38. (Left) The PCSD Staff and the consultants from DAP during the Orientation/Training on ISO 9001:2015 at PSDTI, Barangay Irawan, Puerto Princesa City on 14 August 2017. (Right) Mr. Ronald Armin F. Ocampo of the DAP Productivity and Development Center was one of the resource persons during the ISO 9001:2015 Orientation and Training.



Figure 39. (Left) The PCSD Staff and the representative of Development Academy of the Philippines (DAP) during the on-site visit and technical guidance on the QMS implementation of PCSDS on 12-13 October 2017. (Right) The PCSDS participants together with the DAP team during the Training on Internal Quality Audit on 24-27 October 2017.

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9. LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT

Aside from training, workshops, forums, symposiums, and conferences organized by PCSDS, the staff also attended local and overseas learning and development activities, such as:

10th Southeast Asia Biosphere Reserves Network (SeaBRnet) Meeting in Jakarta, Indonesia on 16-18 May 2017.

Activities in Jeju Island Biosphere Reserve, South Korea:

- 7th meeting of the World Network of Island and Coastal Biosphere Reserves (WNICBR) on 12-14 September 2017;
 - 10th Anniversary of Jeju Biosphere Reserve and World Heritage Site on 10-14 September 2017;
 - 5th UNESCO Training Course for BR Managers by WNICBR on 14-16 September 2017; and
 - o World Heritage Forum 2017 on 12-14 September 2017.
- 7th Asia Climate Change Education Center (ACCEC) International Workshop on Climate Change Strategies by Industrial and Municipal Sector on 12 October 2017, where PCSDS presented the agency's experience in the Zero Carbon Resorts (ZCR) for Sustainable Tourism Project's Green Hotel Certification in Palawan.

Experts Group meeting to discuss the study entitled "Combating crimes that have serious impact on the environment: State of Knowledge on approaches" which was organized by the United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute (UNICRI) in Rome, Italy on 13-15 September 2017.

Man and Biosphere (MAB) Youth Forum in Italy on 18-23 September 2017.

International Workshop on Renewable Energies and Biosphere Reserve at St. Ingbert, Saarland, Germany on 11-13 September 2017, wherein the Zero Carbon Resorts Project was presented.

Training on Forest Land Use Planning by the USAID Protect Wildlife Project on 24-26 May 2017 at PCSDS Main Office, Puerto Princesa City.

Regional Cascading Workshop for Philippine Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (PBSAP) – Southern Luzon Cluster on 9-11 August 2017 in Naga City.

Mt. Mantalingahan Protected Landscape (MMPL) Research Development and Extension (RDE) Agenda Setting of the Protect Wildlife Project on 8-9 February 2017 at the Holiday Suites Hotel, Puerto Princesa City.

6th United Nations World Tourism Organization (UNWTO) International Conference on Tourism Statistics at Marriott Grand Ballroom, Pasay City, on 21-23 June 2017.

National Conference of the Employers Confederation of the Philippines.

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Figure 40. Forum proper of the Experts Group meeting in Rome, Italy on 13-15 September 2017.

10. IMPLEMENTATION OF FOREIGN-ASSISTED AND SPECIAL PROJECTS

a. JFPR Grant 9160: Developing Alternative Livelihoods in the Coral Triangle Initiative (CTI) - Balabac, Philippines (2015-2018) Project

Funded by the Japan Fund for Poverty Reduction (JFPR) through the Asian Development Bank (ADB), the four-year project has the main objective of developing and providing alternative sustainable livelihoods to coastal communities of Balabac municipality, particularly the indigenous peoples (Molbog) and women, thereby reducing pressures to coastal and marine areas and increasing the beneficiaries' income. The project is jointly implemented by PCSDS and the Centre for Environment and Sustainable Development (CESD), with strong coordination with Balabac LGU. For 2017, the JFPR Project Team conducted pilot-testing of sustainable enterprises and skills training in partnership with the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA) and Puerto Princesa School of Arts and Trades (PPSAT). A series of focus group discussions (FGDs) were also organized for beneficiaries.



Figure 41. (Left) Goat raising is one of the livelihood interventions pilot-tested by the JFPR Project Team in Balabac. (Right) JFPR Skills Training in partnership with Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA) and Puerto Princesa School of Arts and Trades (PPSAT).

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b. Capturing Coral Reef and Related Ecosystem Services (CCRES) Project

The CCRES Project aims to develop innovative tools for use by coastal managers and planners to improve ecosystem health and community welfare. It is spearheaded by the University of Queensland (Australia), Global Environment Facility (GEF), World Bank, UP Marine Science Institute, De La Salle University, PSU, El Nido Foundation, and PCSDS. The PCSDS CCRES Project Team focused its study on the mangrove loss component using the innovative application (called SESAMME) currently in development. On February 2017, the PCSD Staff attended a meeting on developing scenario analysis for coastal marine resources.

c. Philippine Wealth Accounting and Valuation of Ecosystem Services (Phil-WAVES) Project

Financed by the World Bank and co-implemented with DENR and other NGAs, the Phil-WAVES Project targets to promote sustainable development through the implementation of wealth accounting, focusing on the value of natural capital. This year, the PCSDS' Phil-WAVES Project Team attended four Phil-WAVES workshops, including review missions. They also presented two policy dialogues to DENR senior officials on 29 March 2017 and two poster presentations during the Natural Capital Accounting Conference on 30-31 March 2017.

d. Zero Carbon Resorts (ZCR) Project

The ZCR Project is a four-year initiative funded by the Center for Appropriate Technology (GrAT), which aims to trigger the transition from fossil fuel to the use of renewable energy sources of hotels, resorts, restaurants, and other small- and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) in the tourism industry. This is implemented through the introduction and promotion of green technologies. On 5 June 2017, the ZCR Project Team organized the ZCR Awards, wherein seven were recognized out of the 16 contending SMEs.

Moreover, the team conducted Technical Sharing Seminars in Coron (27 April), El Nido (30 May), San Vicente (22-23 August), and Puerto Princesa City (5 June).



Figure 42. (Left) The ZCR Awardees together with PCSDS Executive Director Nelson Devanadera during the 2016 ZCR Awards on 5 June 2017. (Right) Engr. Madrono Cabrestante Jr. and Atty. Adelina Benavente-Villena of PCSDS together with San Vicente Municipal Administrator James Paul Inawasan (center) during the ZCR Technical Seminar in San Vicente, Palawan.

The ZCR Project Team also conducted energy assessment of 88 SMEs in Palawan. The ZCR Model Cottage in Barangay Irawan, Puerto Princesa, which showcases green technologies, was also maintained by the team and was visited by around 130 individuals in 2017.

II. ASSESSMENT AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

B. ASSESSMENT OF PHYSICAL VIS-À-VIS FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE

The PCSD and its technical staff continued its provision of policy and regulatory services to its clients for Fiscal Year 2017, operating with a total budget of Php 100.32 million.

All physical performance indicators under the Regular Fund in terms of Major Final Outputs (MFOs) and General Administration and Support Services (GASS) were accomplished, with the exception of Indicator 2 under MFO 1 which will depend on the results of the Client Satisfaction Survey (CSS). On the other hand, the agency budget utilization rate is 100%.

Meanwhile, under the Wildlife Management Fund - Special Account in the General Fund (WMF-SAGF), the agency accomplished all targets for the six performance indicators, while utilizing 97% (Php 4.954M out of Php 5.1M) of the total budget of WMF-SAGF. The remaining Php 145,000 was obligated but not disbursed, as the Notice of Cash Allocation (NCA) released for the fourth quarter of 2017 was not sufficient to pay for some obligations under Maintenance and Other Operating Expenses (MOOE) for FY 2017.

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C. FACTORS THAT INFLUENCED PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION

The table below shows the factors that have either facilitated or hindered the implementation of PCSDS activities or the attainment of target outputs.

Table 2. Factors that affected implementation of PCSDS activities.

Facilitating Factors	Hindering Factors
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Hiring of Job Order contractors with expertise, competence, and correct attitude. 2. Team work and complementation within and among divisions. 3. Continuous improvement of processes through QMS implementation. 4. Inflow of field practicum students (interns), on-the-job trainees (OJTs), and volunteers, which augmented the workforce requirements. 5. Strong collaboration with partner organizations (LGUs, CSOs, academe, NGAs, international organizations, ECAN Boards, Sangguniang Bayan, private sector, etc.). 6. Use of electronic Modified Disbursement System (eMDS). 7. Strict implementation of COA guidelines on cash advances. 8. Arrangement with LGU in the Calamianes Group of Islands, which currently requires the ECAN Zoning Certification (EZC) from all projects securing Zoning Clearance, Building Permit, Mayor's Permit, and Barangay Resolution of Endorsement. This increased the quantity of issued EZCs in 2017. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Occasional unavailability of service vehicles. 2. Slow internet connection. 3. Communication problems (application with PLDT on-hold sometime in 2017). 4. Lack of motivation of authors/contributors to submit scientific papers to <i>Our Palawan</i> Journal, delaying the review process and expected time of journal publication. 5. Overlapping activities of LGUs and other partners, leading to conflicts in schedule.

II. ASSESSMENT AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

D. CRITICAL ISSUES AND CHALLENGES

Using the PESTLE (Political-Economic-Social-Technological-Legal-Environmental) matrix, the following are the external issues and concerns in Palawan identified by PCSDS during one of its QMS Training-Workshops.

Table 3. The PESTLE matrix of critical issues and challenges identified by PCSDS.

Political Issues	Economic Issues
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Political influence in decision making. 2. Proposed subdivision of Palawan into three provinces to form one region. 3. Territorial issues in the West Philippine Sea (reclamation of islands and intrusion by China). 4. Large geographic area of Palawan (making it hard to patrol the territorial waters). 5. Power struggle (for a time) in Puerto Princesa. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Frequent power outages due to unreliable power supply. 2. Lack of diversified skills for livelihood development. 3. Boom of tourism and construction industries. 4. High demand for aggregates and timber 5. Lack of sources of aggregates and timber. 6. Ongoing infrastructure projects (airports, roads). 7. Rise of malls. 8. Informal settling and land grabbing. 9. Land speculation. 10. Urbanization, leading to traffic and pollution problems in urban areas. 11. Entry and expansion of plantation projects. 12. Proposed water development projects in several areas (including Lake Manguao). 13. Controversial coconut plantation project. 14. Issues on oil palm plantation project. 15. Controversial cement project in Sofronio Española.

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Social Issues	Technological Issues
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Perceived inequitable access to resources. 2. High migration rate in Palawan. 3. High incidence of poverty (58% below poverty level). 4. "Deculturation" or "tribal extinction". 5. Encroachment of lands (e.g., Iwahig Penal Colony). 6. High incidence of HIV/AIDS. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Very slow or no internet connection. 2. Limited access to technology. 3. Entry of business process outsourcing (BPO) (e.g., SITEL).
Legal Issues	Environmental Issues
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Unharmonized laws. 2. Weak implementation of laws. 3. Slow judicial process. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Open access to the environment due to lack of government resources to enforce regulations.

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E. MEASURES TAKEN TO ADDRESS CHALLENGES

In relation to the challenges, bottlenecks, problems, and issues that have hindered or delayed the implementation of PCSDS activities, the following are the measures and actions undertaken by the agency to address these:

1. Implemented a capacity building for staff to enhance their knowledge, skills, and competence in environmental management;
2. Closely coordinated and engaged with clients and partners from all sectors to co-implement PCSDS projects, programs, and activities;
3. Strong coordination and complementation among divisions (including sharing of equipment, vehicles, etc.);
4. Established new partnerships, and strengthened collaboration with current partner agencies (LGUs, CSOs, academe, NGAs, international organizations, ECAN Board, etc.) on various activities.
5. Incorporated the principles of participative and consultative planning and policy making, by ensuring that, as much as possible, all sector groups within a locality are well represented in the process, especially during stakeholders consultations and planning workshops;
6. Increased visibility in social media, which has become a forum for people to communicate with PCSDS;
7. Proactive efforts of PCSDS Bids and Awards Committee (BAC) to expedite the procurement of necessary equipment for PCSDS operations;
8. Developed the PCSD Mobile Application, which provided the staff and its clients access to PCSD-implemented laws, events, and activities through smart phones;
9. Applied the electronic Modified Disbursement System (eMDS), allowing checkless disbursement within 24-48 hours;
10. Installed desktop computers at PCSDS Main Office lobby for client use;
11. Complied with the reforms instituted by the national government, DBM, and DENR to improve service delivery and rationalize planning, budgeting, and reporting systems; and
12. Held several policy dialogues to ascertain the needs and expectations of clients.

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F. ASSESSMENT OF STAKEHOLDERS' RESPONSES

1. CLIENT SATISFACTION SURVEY (CSS) RESULTS

The following table shows the results of the 2015 and 2016 Client Satisfaction Survey (CSS) by the University of the Philippines National College of Public Administration and Governance (UP-NCPAG), which was commissioned by DENR to measure the satisfaction of stakeholders to PCSDS policies or frontline services.

Table 4. Results of Client Satisfaction Survey (CSS) commissioned by DENR (2015-2016).

Parameter	2015	2016	Trend
Services/Products received	87.57	---	
Policies & Plans	85.21	84.20	↓
Quality of Service/Product Received	82.84	84.80	↑
Staff Professionalism	88.17	89.00	↑
Client Awareness of the Service/Product	84.62	86.30	↑
Average	85.68	86.08	↑

Table above shows that from 2015 to 2016, the trend on rating by stakeholders on PCSDS in terms of three of the four parameters is increasing. The overall satisfaction of PCSDS clients increased between the two periods.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS OF STAKEHOLDERS TO PCSDS PROGRAM

To ensure that the PCSDS activities will be in line with the needs and requirements of stakeholders, the PCSDS solicited comments, suggestions, and recommendations from stakeholders during the first semester of 2017. The PCSDS submitted the FY 2018 list of activities of the Palawan ECAN Management Program to the National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA) Regional Development Council (RDC) - MIMAROPA. Meanwhile, suggestions and recommendations from civil society organizations (CSOs) were collected from various sources, such as: (a) the presentation of the said program during the 12th PKP Meeting on 8 March 2017; (b) the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) entered, executed, and signed on 9 June 2016 between and among University of the Philippines, Provincial Government of Palawan, City Government of Puerto Princesa, UPAA Mother Chapter, UPAA-Palawan Chapter, and PCSD; and (c) the inputs of NGOs during the Pre-Environmental Summit Consultations for Northern, Southern, and Central Palawan clusters on October 2016.

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Stakeholder	Remarks and Recommendations for On-going Activities	Remarks and Recommendations for New or Expanded Activities
Regional Development Council (RDC) – MIMAROPA	Identified activities in the FY 2018 Agency Plans and Budget Proposal support the strategies stated in the Chapter 20 "Ensuring ecological integrity, clean and healthy environment" of the Regional Development Plan 2017-2022 such as: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Strengthen the convergence programs among national, local government units, grassroots, and private sectors to improve monitoring and protection of environment and natural areas; 2. Promote compatible and sustainable use of lands and natural resources to optimize ecological, cultural, and economic benefits; 3. Protection of habitats; monitoring of poaching activities, key biodiversity areas; provide breeding programs for specific species; 4. Strengthen the implementation of Wildlife Act, NIPAS Act, and Philippine Fisheries Code (Amended). Proposed budget for Capital Outlay on the procurement of vehicles must be consistent with COA rules and regulations and DBM guidelines; 5. Establish a regional database to strengthen ENR assessment, monitoring, and evaluation process; and 6. Resettlement of upland and protected area occupants in safe areas. 	
Civil Society Organizations		
a. Advocacy, Communications and Education (ACE)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Integrate materials in school curriculum (e.g. elementary textbooks should contain endemic Palawan species rather than exotic ones). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assistance of the University of the Philippines Alumni Association (UPAA mother chapter) and the UPAA Palawan Chapter to the PCSD in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Fund raising for the operation of the Palawan Center for Sustainable Development; o Lobbying with the Provincial and City Government for the fund allocation for the Center; and o Developing market strategy for the Center.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conduct IEC and advocacy down to household and school levels Implement awareness campaigns in the communities Tap the assistance of Local Government Academy Introduce special courses on environment in Palawan with the help of DepEd and CHED 	
b. ECAN Monitoring and Evaluation System	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explore other sources of data for feasibility studies, aside from the Community-Based Monitoring System (CBMS) of the province. 	
c. ECAN Zoning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Facilitate recognition and protection of ancestral domains (which include ECAN tribal ancestral lands), since there are many ancestral lands that are sold or rented to non-indigenous peoples. Integrate the "sustainable" <i>kaingin</i>, which is part of the culture of indigenous peoples (IPs), in ancestral domain management plans and CLUPs. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conduct ground demarcation through biofencing, since people do not follow the boundaries of protection zones as the community lacks information about them and barangay officials and NGOs hardly know the extent of the zones. Demarcate the zones for coastal marine areas through installation of buoys. Conduct the identification and delineation with the active participation of barangay officials and NGOs.

Table 5. Recommendations of stakeholders to PCSDS activities under the Palawan ECAN Management Program.

II. ASSESSMENT AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Stakeholder	Remarks and Recommendations for On-going Activities	Remarks and Recommendations for New or Expanded Activities
d. Knowledge and Research Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase funds for research. • One option that can be explored is the DOST Science for Change Program (S4CP) under the National R&D Agenda 2017-2022. The program emphasizes the importance of collaborative research among stakeholders in the government, industry, and the academe to leverage growth in the Philippine economy. • Encourage and promote biodiversity studies in Palawan. 	
e. Operation of Strategic Environmental Plan Clearance System	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strictly enforce the law for quarries without permits. • Designate quarry areas through assessment and mapping and incorporating the same to the CLUP, river carrying capacity assessment, and river bank rehabilitation. • Streamline the process of securing non-timber forest products (NTFP) permits, as suggested by IPs. 	
f. Wildlife and Cave Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct BioBlitz with all sectors, to document all the species found in the province faster. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strengthen enforcement by organizing people's organizations involved in environmental conservation and by deputizing additional skilled and equipped enforcers/forest rangers. • Organize more Community-based Forest Management (CBFM). • Institute a sustainable livelihood program that does not affect the environment. • Explore barangay-based enforcement of laws through institutionalized, participatory or multi-stakeholders enforcement with simple and clear reporting protocols, capacity building, and community empowerment.

II. ASSESSMENT AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

G. GOOD PRACTICES

The following are some of the good practices employed by PCSDS to improve its performance and service delivery to its clients:

1. Use of Theory of Change (TOC) framework in strategic planning for FY 2017 and onwards.
2. Revisiting and revising the Quality Policy and Business Process Map of PCSDS and alignment of agency processes to ISO 9001:2015 - Quality Management System. This QMS implementation includes the formation of QMS Core Teams, especially the Internal Quality Audit (IQA) teams.
3. Established rapport with the LGUs, leading to full support of LGU to PCSD SEP and ECAN implementation:
 - a. Counterpart staff provided by LGU to PCSDS DMDs.
 - b. Provision of financial support.
 - c. Deed of donation secured by PCSDS from LGU Brooke's Point for the construction of PCSDS-DMD office and staff house.
 - d. Deed of conveyance for the Quezon DMO lot secured from LGU-Quezon by DMD-South.
 - e. LGU Narra Ordinance on identification, delineation, and declaration of watershed areas.
4. Private partner's full support to PCSD SEP and ECAN implementation
 - a. Provision of logistic support.
 - b. Full assistance in reforestation projects in terrestrial and coastal areas.
 - c. Support to biodiversity conservation by partner NGOs and funding agencies like USAID Protect Wildlife Project, SMARTSeas, ADB, CI, and others.
5. Membership of PCSD Staff in various technical working groups, boards, councils, and local planning and management body (e.g., local development councils (LDCs) and its sectoral committees, protected area management boards (PAMBs), and multi-partite law enforcement teams).
6. Operation of the Palawan International Center for Sustainable Development (PICSD), including development and maintenance of training center website (<https://trainingcenter.pcsd.gov.ph>).
7. Implementation of internship program (ripe for institutionalization).
8. Promoting collaboration and Public-Private Partnerships (PPP) with, among others, Forest Foundation Philippines, CI-Philippines, academe, SMARTSeas, and Non-Timber Forest Product - Exchange Programme Philippines.

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9. Touch-based with critical agencies for implementation of agency mandates such as Housing and Land Use Regulatory Board (HLURB) and National Solid Waste Management Commission (NSWMC).

10.Active Palawan Knowledge Platform (PKP), of which PCSDS was the designated repository of information, that meets regularly and organizes an annual national conference on sustainable development.

11.Strengthening of PCSDS information and communications technology (ICT) infrastructure to promote transparency and streamline processes.

12.Implementation of Freedom of Information (FOI) policy.

III. PHYSICAL AND FINANCIAL ACCOMPLISHMENT

Program/ Project	Physical Accomplishments for CY 2017 Indicator	Physical Accomplishments for CY 2017				Financial Accomplishment for CY 2017 in '000				Remarks
		Target	Accomplishment	% Accomplishment	Appropriations/Allotment	Obligations	Disbursements	Budget Utilization Rate Obligations BUR	Disbursements BUR	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	7/6	8/7	9
I. General Administration and Support Service					37,367	37,365	37,209	99.99%	99.58%	
	1. Number of communities reached with IEC	12	13	108%						Refers to number of IEC caravans conducted.
	2. Percentage of administrative support provided	100	100	100%						Administrative support improved based on learnings from the recently conducted series of training-workshops and management review meeting (August to December 2017) on ISO 9001:2015 Quality Management System (QMS) Documentation and Requirements and Internal Quality Audit.
II. MFO 1: Palawan Sustainable Development Policy Service					33,489	33,489	33,489	100.00%	100.00%	
	1. Number of plans and policies developed and issued or updated and disseminated	21	21	100%						

III. PHYSICAL AND FINANCIAL ACCOMPLISHMENT

Program/ Project	Physical Accomplishments for CY 2017			Financial Accomplishment for CY 2017				Financial Accomplishment for CY 2017 in '000			Remarks (problem/issues for low physical/financial accomplishments)
	Indicator	Target	Accomplishment	% Accomplishment	Appropriations/ Allotment	Obligations	Disbursements	Budget Utilization Rate Obligations BUR	Disbursements BUR		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	7/6	8/7	9	
	2. Percentage of stakeholders that rate the PCSD policies as good or better	69								Refers to average percentage based on Client Satisfaction Survey (CSS) Report on PCSD policies or frontline services. CSS report will be submitted by a third party commissioned by DENR. DENR to give feedback to PCSDS regarding the CSS results.	
	3. Average percentage of plans and policies reviewed over the last 2 years	4	4	100%						Target refers to number of ECAN plans updated.	
III. MFO 2: Palawan Sustainable Development Regulation Services											
MFO 2-1: Operation of Strategic Environmental Plan (SEP) Clearance System					17,246	17,246	17,246	100.00%	100.00%		
	Issuance of Clearances										
	1. Number of permits and clearances issued	200	389	195%						Target refers to the number of SEP Clearances and Wildlife Special Use Permits (WSUP) issued.	
	1.1 SEP Clearances issued	100	152	152%							

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III. PHYSICAL AND FINANCIAL ACCOMPLISHMENT

Program/ Project	Physical Accomplishments for CY 2017				Financial Accomplishment for CY 2017				Financial Accomplishment for CY 2017 in '000		Remarks (problem/issues for low physical/financial accomplishments)
	Indicator	Target	Accomplishment	% Accomplishment	Appropriations/ Allotment	Obligations	Disbursements	Budget Utilization Rate Obligations BUR	Disbursements BUR		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	7/6	8/7	9	
	1.2 Wildlife Special Use Permits issued	100	237	237%						Variance is due to large number of proponents applying for WSUP during open season of Reef Fish Food (RFF) catching and trading.	
	2. Percentage of permit/ clearance holders incurring 1 or more violation in the last 3 years	10	0.24	198%						Target is maximum; accomplishment must be less than the target. Target is measured by dividing (a) the number of SEP Clearance-related cases filed in the PCSD Adjudication Board (PAB) in the last 3 years by (b) total number of SEP Clearance holders (2001-2016 & 2017). 0.24% = (4+1+2 violators)/ (2,708+152 SEP Clearances) % Accomplishment = [(Target-Accomplishment)/Target]*100% + 100% % Accomplishment = [(10-0.24)/10]*100%+100% % Accomplishment = 198% Variance is due to the low number of violations reported.	
	3. Percentage of permit and/or clearance applications acted upon within 7 days from date of receipt	96	100	104%						Refers to processing of permit/clearance applications. "Applications acted upon" means assessment of the completeness of submitted documents.	

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III. PHYSICAL AND FINANCIAL ACCOMPLISHMENT

Program/ Project	Physical Accomplishments for CY 2017				Financial Accomplishment for CY 2017 in '000				Remarks
	Indicator	Target	Accomplishment	% Accomplishment	Appropriations/ Allotment	Obligations	Disbursements	Budget Utilization Rate Obligations Disbursements BUR	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	7/6	8/7
									100% or 152 out of 152 permit/clearance applications acted upon within 7 days 104% = (100%/96%)*100% Variance is due to prompt action on applications.
	Monitoring								
	1. Number of establishments and facilities monitored and/or inspected with reports issued	200	264	132%					Accomplishment refers to the number of projects & establishments with and without SEP Clearances and Wildlife Special Use Permits. The increase in the number of projects monitored/inspected is attributed to the active participation of members of the ECAN Board in the monitoring.
	2. Percentage of submitted reports that resulted in the issuance of notice of violations and penalties imposed	10	0.84	192%					Refers to (a) number of establishments issued with PAB summons divided by (b) total number of establishments monitored Target is maximum; accomplishment must be less than the target 2 out of 239 monitored projects/establishments with SEP Clearance was issued with PCSD Adjudication Board (PAB) Summons. 0.84% = (2/239)*100% % Accomplishment = [Target-

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III. PHYSICAL AND FINANCIAL ACCOMPLISHMENT

Program/ Project	Physical Accomplishments for CY 2017				Financial Accomplishment for CY 2017 in '000				Remarks
	Indicator	Target	Accomplishment	% Accomplishment	Appropriations/ Allotment	Obligations	Disbursements	Budget Utilization Rate Obligations Disbursements BUR	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	7/6	8/7
									Accomplishment/Target]*100%+100% % Accomplishment - [(10-0.84)/10]*100%+100% % Accomplishment = 192% Variance is due to the apparent high level of compliance to PCSD AO / SEP Clearance conditionalities.
	3. Percentage of establishments and facilities that have been inspected more than twice in 2 years	90	91	101%					Target is measured by dividing the (a) number of establishments and facilities with SEP Clearances and/or Wildlife Special Use Permit (WSUP) monitored/inspected at least 3 times from 2016-2017 by the (b) total number of monitored/inspected establishments and facilities with SEP Clearances and WSUP from 2016 to 2017. = Total number of establishments inspected at least 3x within 2 years (2016-2017) / Total number of establishments monitored (2016-2017) 91% = (208/228)*100% Accomplishment Rate: (91%/90%)*100% = 101%
MFO 2-2: Implementation									

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III. PHYSICAL AND FINANCIAL ACCOMPLISHMENT

Program/ Project	Physical Accomplishments for CY 2017				Financial Accomplishment for CY 2017 in '000				Remarks (problem/issues for low physical/financial accomplishments)	
	Indicator	Target	Accomplishment	% Accomplishment	Appropriations/ Allotment	Obligations	Disbursements	Budget Utilization Rate Obligations BUR Disbursements BUR		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	7/6	8/7	9
n of Rules and Regulations										
	Enforcement									
	1. Number of potential violations and complaints acted upon and reports issued	30	53	177%	12006	12006	12006	100.00%	100.00%	Accomplishment refers to the number of administrative & criminal cases filed. The large number of filed cases can be attributed to the strong partnership with Bantay Palawan Inter-Agency Task Force which is composed of various law enforcement agencies. Management instructed concerned divisions/units to intensify IEC and collaboration with partner institutions to assist in generating environmental awareness.
	2. Number of persons and entities with 2 or more recorded violations in the last 3 years as a % of the total number of violations	2	1.94	103%						Target is maximum; accomplishment must be less than the target. Target is measured by dividing (a) the number of persons and entities with at least 2 violations recorded from 2015 to 2017 by (b) total number of violators in the same period. 1.94% = (2/103)*100% % Accomplishment = [(Target-Accomplishment)/Target]*100% 100%

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III. PHYSICAL AND FINANCIAL ACCOMPLISHMENT

Program/ Project	Physical Accomplishments for CY 2017				Financial Accomplishment for CY 2017 in '000				Remarks (problem/issues for low physical/financial accomplishments)
	Indicator	Target	Accomplishment	% Accomplishment	Appropriations/ Allotment	Obligations	Disbursements	Budget Utilization Rate Obligations BUR Disbursements BUR	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	7/6 8/7	9 % Accomplishment = [(2-1.94)/2]*100%=100% % Accomplishment = 103% Target is measured by dividing (a) the number of criminal cases filed in 7 days after completion of documents in 2017 by (b) the total criminal cases filed during the same period. 22 out of 22 criminal cases filed in 7 days after completion of documents. 100% = (22/22)*100% Accomplishment exceeded targets, nevertheless cases against violators were promptly filed in court.
Wildlife Management Fund									The NCA released for the 4th quarter is not sufficient to pay for some obligations under MOOE for FY 2017.
	1. Operationalization of Wildlife Enforcement Officer Network								
	1.1 Conduct of seizure/apprehension of illegally traded wildlife items (Number of seizures/apprehensions)	16	79	494%					The variance is due to the establishment and operation of barangay intelligence networks (BINs) and community quick response teams (QRTs), which

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III. PHYSICAL AND FINANCIAL ACCOMPLISHMENT

Program/ Project	Physical Accomplishments for CY 2017				Financial Accomplishment for CY 2017 in '000				Remarks (problem/issues for low physical/financial accomplishments)
	Indicator	Target	Accomplishment	% Accomplishment	Appropriations/ Allotment	Obligations	Disbursements	Budget Utilization Rate Obligations BUR Disbursements BUR	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	7/6 8/7	9
	of illegally traded wildlife items)								assisted the PCSDS enforcement teams.
	1.2 Perform intelligence and data gathering (Number of investigation and surveillance reports)	12	97	808%					The variance is due to the extensive operations of PCSDS together with Banlay Palawan Inter-Agency Task Force which is composed of various law enforcement agencies. Another facilitating factor is the efforts of community quick response teams (QRTs) which coordinate with different enforcement agencies and barangay local government units (LGUs).
	2. Inspection activities on livefish trade and inspection of wildlife in four (4) municipalities								
	2.1. Conduct inspection for livefish permit applications (Number of certificates of livefish inspection)	650	735	113%					The livefish permit applications refer to Local Transport Permit (LTP) applications by holders of Wildlife Special Use Permit (WSUP). The variance can be attributed to the increase in the number of proponents applying for WSUP due to suspension of the policy on midyear close season of reef fish food (RFF) catching and trading.

III. PHYSICAL AND FINANCIAL ACCOMPLISHMENT

Program/ Project	Physical Accomplishments for CY 2017				Financial Accomplishment for CY 2017 in '000				Remarks (problem/issues for low physical/financial accomplishments)
	Indicator	Target	Accomplishment	% Accomplishment	Appropriations/ Allotment	Obligations	Disbursements	Budget Utilization Rate Obligations BUR Disbursements BUR	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	7/6 8/7	9
	2.2 Conduct regular inspection on livefish operations (Number of monitoring reports on livefish)	12	12	100%					
	3. Operation and Maintenance of Wildlife Traffic Monitoring Units (WTMUs) in Strategic Air and Sea Ports								
	3.1 Perform monitoring and inspection of cargoes, baggages and shipments (WTMU monthly monitoring/accomplishment reports)	96	96	100%					
	4. Species conservation and management								
	4.1 Assess resources of critical habitats/Key Biodiversity Areas	2	2	100%					
	Payment of Prior Year Accounts Payable					151			
					105,208	105,205	105,055	100.00%	99.86%

IV. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION

For 2017, the PCSDS continues to implement its mandated functions of serving as technical staff for the PCSD, and as the lead implementer for selected environmental laws such as R.A. No. 7611 (SEP for Palawan Act), R.A. No. 9147 (Wildlife Act), R.A. No. 9175 (Chain Saw Act), and R.A. 9072 (Caves Act).

As the year 2017 closed, it can be noted that the following major outputs and activities were accomplished:

- Updating of four Terrestrial ECAN Maps, nine Coastal ECAN Maps, one TAZ Map, and four maps of habitats of threatened species;
- Formulation of four ECAN Management Plans, two Cave Management Plans, and one TAZ Management Plan;
- Maintenance of PKP information clearing house mechanism and conduct of four quarterly PKP meetings;
- Publication of knowledge products;
- Operation of the Enhanced ECAN Monitoring and Evaluation System (EMES) mechanism, including its components such as the GIS, the Environmental Laboratory and Hydrometeorology, the ECAN Resources and Ecosystems Accounting and Valuation, and the Sustainable Monitoring Online Tool;
- Conduct of researches on two economically important species, specifically abalone (*Haliotis asinina*) and sea cucumber (various species);
- Confiscation of 5,970 heads and/or pieces of assorted wildlife species, 17,800 board feet of lumber, and 24 units of chain saw;
- Conduct of IEC caravans for 13 municipalities;
- Finalization of the Knowledge-Attitude-Practices (KAP) Survey report;
- Development of ECAN Zones Scorecard;
- Conduct of various training sessions both for PCSD Staff and for external stakeholders (LGUs, NGAs, CSOs, academe, private sector, communities, etc.);
- Enforcement operations, including (a) establishment and operation of community quick response teams (QRTs) in two wildlife hotspot areas (Taytay and Roxas), (b) conduct of 76 apprehensions of violators, and (c) operation of Wildlife Traffic Monitoring Units on eight strategic air and sea ports;
- Operation of SEP Clearance System and Permitting System, including issuance of 152 SEP Clearances, 11,720 wildlife-related permits, and 93 chainsaw-related permits and certificates of registration, and monitoring of 264 projects or establishments;

IV. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION

- Conduct of SD-related forums, workshops and conferences, including (a) the Policy Forum on RFF; (b) the SEP Silver Anniversary Gala Night; (c) the Palawan Province Forest Management Stakeholders' Consultation; (d) the 3rd National Conference on Sustainable Development; (e) the Stakeholders Consultation for Climate-Ready Palawan Coastal and Marine Areas; (f) the Almaciga Forum and FGD; (g) the PCSD Tribal Affairs Committee 1st and 2nd meetings; (h) the 3rd PCSD SAP Meeting; and (i) the PCSD Kiddie Wildlife Summit;

- Participation to various UNESCO BR-related events in the Philippines and abroad;
- Continuous implementation of special projects such as (a) JPFR Project in Balabac, (b) CCRES Project, (c) Phil-WAVES Project, and (d) ZCR Project;
- Nomination of the Mt. Mantalingahan Protected Landscape by PCSD as UNESCO World Heritage Site; and
- Alignment of PCSDS processes to ISO 9001:2015 or Quality Management System.

Overall, the PCSDS achieved and in some cases exceeded its annual target. Meanwhile, the total allotment of Php 100.320M, which increased to Php 105.208M due to monetization of leave benefits, among other factors, was almost 100% utilized. Though the above facts can lead to the assumption that the PCSDS budget allocation for FY 2017 is adequate, this is not necessarily true. Despite its very satisfactory performance in terms of the attainment of MFOs, there were also budget and other constraints during the calendar year. However, these constraints were minimized or eliminated due to the presence of facilitating factors and the implementation of good practices by the agency.

Remarkably, there is an increasing trend in client satisfaction from 2015 to 2016, based on the CSS conducted by UP-NCPAG, indicating improvement in PCSDS operations. Additionally, recommendations from the civil society organizations (CSOs) imply the need to further expand the partnerships of PCSDS with key agencies, to educate stakeholders through various strategic approaches, to strictly enforce laws while exploring other approaches like community-based enforcement, and to explore other data sources and types of data collection.

In line with these, the PCSDS sees the need to undertake the following strategic actions:

- Continuous improvement of PCSDS processes, especially frontline services, based on feedback mechanisms (CSS, feedback trays/boards, suggestion boxes, etc.), and in line with ISO 9001:2015 or QMS;
- Implementation of PCSDS Internship/Volunteerism Program and strengthening coordination with local academic institutions, to fill in the gaps in the agency's workforce;
- Continuous mainstreaming of Gender and Development (GAD) in the PCSDS activities;

IV. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION

- Continuous improvement of PCSDS processes, especially frontline services, based on feedback mechanisms (CSS, feedback trays/boards, suggestion boxes, etc.), and in line with ISO 9001:2015 or QMS;
 - Implementation of PCSDS Internship/Volunteerism Program and strengthening coordination with local academic institutions, to fill in the gaps in the agency's workforce;
 - Continuous mainstreaming of Gender and Development (GAD) in the PCSDS activities;
 - Mainstreaming and institutionalizing the SEP framework and the ECAN strategy into the local government planning system, including (a) assessing the conformity of local government plans (i.e., CLUPs, including Zoning Ordinances, and CDPs) to ECAN; and (b) developing, with HLURB, joint guidelines for the formulation of ecanized CLUPs and CDPs;
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